

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

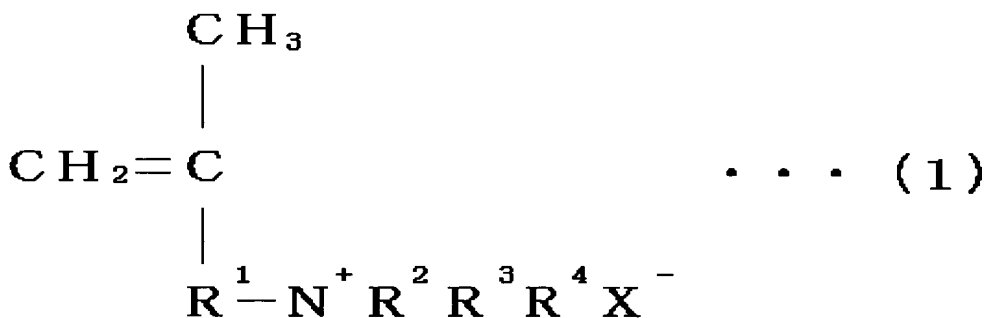
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

Listing of Claims

Claim 12 (new): A papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer, produced by polymerizing a monomer (a) expressed by the following general formula 1, the following monomer (b), and the following monomer (c):

(a) general formula 1:



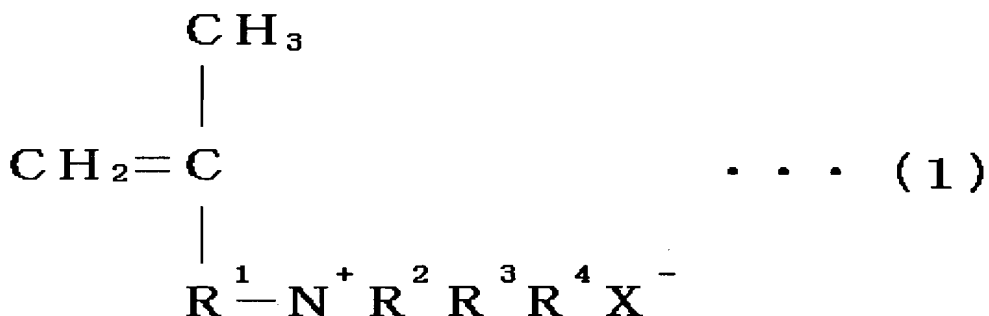
(where R¹ is a C₁ to C₄ alkylene group, R² to R⁴ are each a hydrogen atom or C₂₂ or lower alkyl group that may have a substituent (two or three of R² to R⁴ may not be hydrogen atoms), and X⁻ is an anion of an inorganic acid or an organic acid);

(b) a (meth)acrylamide;

(c) an ionic monomer other than monomer (a) expressed by general formula 1 above.

Claim 13. (new): A papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer, produced by polymerizing a monomer (a) expressed by the following general formula 1, the following monomer (b), the following monomer (c), and a crosslinking agent (d):

(a) general formula 1



(where R¹ is a C₁ to C₄ alkylene group, R² to R⁴ are each a hydrogen atom or C₂₂ or lower alkyl group that may have a substituent (two or three of R² to R⁴ may not be hydrogen atoms), and X⁻ is an anion of an inorganic acid or an organic acid);

(b) a (meth)acrylamide;

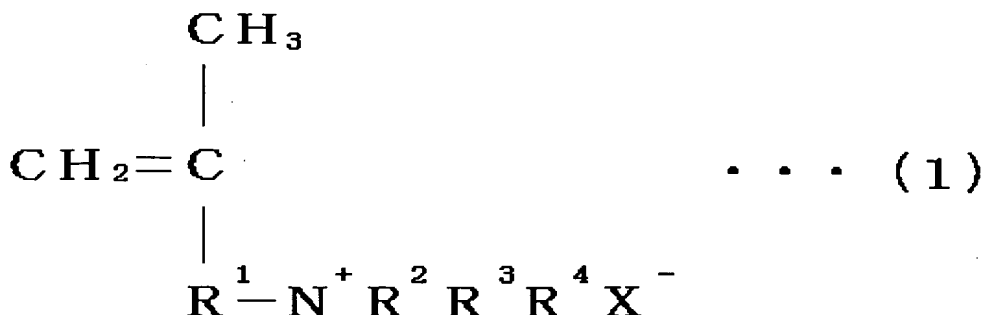
(c) an ionic monomer other than monomer (a) expressed by general formula 1 above.

Claim 14 (new): The method for manufacturing the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 12, wherein at least one member selected from the group consisting of the monomer (a), monomer (b), and monomer (c) is polymerized, and the remaining monomers are added during this polymerization.

Claim 15 (new): The method for manufacturing the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 13, wherein at least one member selected from the group consisting of the monomer (a), monomer (b), monomer (c), and crosslinking agent (d) is polymerized, and the remaining monomers are added during this polymerization.

Claim 16 (new): A papermaking chemical, containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer produced by polymerizing a monomer (a) expressed by the following general formula 1, the following monomer (b), the following monomer (c1), the following monomer (c2), and a crosslinking agent (d):

(a) general formula 1:



(where R¹ is a C₁ to C₄ alkylene group, R² to R⁴ are each a hydrogen atom or C₂₂ or lower alkyl group that may have a substituent (two or three of R² to R⁴ may not be hydrogen atoms), and X⁻ is an anion of an inorganic acid or an organic acid);

(b) a (meth)acrylamide;

(c1) a (meth)allylsulfonic acid (salt);

(c2) an ionic monomer other than the monomer (a) and the monomer (c1).

Claim 17 (new): The method for manufacturing the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 16, wherein at least one member selected from the group consisting of the monomer (a), monomer (b), monomer (c1), monomer (c2), and crosslinking agent (d) is polymerized, and the remaining monomers are added during this polymerization.

Claim 18 (new): The papermaking chemical, containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 12, wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of a urea compound.

Claim 19 (new): The method for manufacturing a papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 14, wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of a urea compound.

Claim 20 (new): The papermaking chemical, wherein the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 12, is a paper strength agent.

Claim 21 (new): Paper containing the papermaking chemical according to claim 20.

Claim 22 (new): The papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 13, wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of a urea compound.

Claim 23 (new): The papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 16, wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of a urea compound.

Claim 24 (new): The method for manufacturing a papermaking chemical containing a polymer according to claim 15, wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of a urea compound.

Claim 25 (new): The method for manufacturing a papermaking chemical containing a polymer according to claim 17, wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of a urea compound.

Claim 26 (new): The papermaking chemical, wherein the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 13 is a paper strength agent.

Claim 27 (new): The papermaking chemical, wherein the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 16 is a paper strength agent.

Claim 28 (new): The papermaking chemical, wherein the papermaking chemical containing a (meth)acrylamide polymer according to claim 18 is a paper strength agent.